

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 COME-00 XMB-02

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3859

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA/DOWLING

E.O. 11652: DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: EGEN PL

SUBJ: POSSIBLE EXIM BANK FINANCING FOR OKECIE II AIRPORT PROJECT

REF: (A) STATE 205039, (B) STATE 222733, (C) WARSAW 5913

1. POLAND IS CLEARLY PLANNING A MAJOR EXPANSION OF THE HIGHLY CONGESTED WARSAW AIRPORT TEMINAL AND OTHER FACILITIES. THE EMBASSY EXPECTS THAT AIRPORT EXPANSION PLANS FOR WARSAW WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF NUMEROUS US FIRMS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND INFORMATION-PROCESSING SYSTEMS. THE AIRPORT EXPANSION PLANS, LABELED THE "OKECIE II PROJECT", WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF EXPANDING THE PRESENT OKECIE FACILITIES SOUTHWEST OF WARSAW IN 1977 AND 1978, WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AIRPORT NORTH OF WARSAW TO BEGIN SOMETIME IN 1980 OR 1981.

2. OUR ASSESSMENT IS BASED ON INFORMATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION OFFICIALS AT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO GIVE US AN ESTIMATE OF TOTAL PROJECTED INVESTMENT FOR THE PROJECT. THEY EXPLAIN THAT A FINAL DECISION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN ON THE DEGREE OF EXPANSION OF EXISTING AIRPORT FACILITIES NOR ON THE TIMING OR SCALE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT. WE ARE HOPEFUL OF OBTAINING PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES

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ON THE POSSIBLE MAGNITUDE OF FUTURE WARSAW AIRPORT INVESTMENTS

FROM THE DESIGN OFFICE OF THE CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND
WILL REPORT THIS INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. THE POLES HAVE ALREADY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH TEXAS INSTRUMENTS
ON THE PURCHASE OF RADAR FOR THE WARSAW AIRPORT AND FOR THREE OR
FOUR OTHER RADAR INSTALLATIONS WHICH WOULD FEED INFORMATION INTO
A CENTRAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM IN WARSAW. POSSIBLE SALES BY
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS WOULD BE LINKED WITH, BUT NOT ENTIRELY DEPENDENT
UPON, THE EXPANSION OF THE WARSAW AIRPORT FACILITIES. THE MINISTRY
OF TRANSPORTATION HAS ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF BOEING AEROSYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL CONCERNING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

4. AS INDICATED REF C, AN OFFICER FROM FAA BRUSSELS MAY IN THE
NEAR FUTURE BE ABLE TO VISIT WARSAW TO EXPLAIN THE LATEST
DEVELOPMENTS IN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS IN THE US. ALTHOUGH
THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION HAS REACTED POSITIVELY TO THIS
SUGGESTION, THE ABSENCE OF KEY OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY HAS THUS
FAR PREVENTED A DECISION ON THE TIMING OF THE VISIT AND THE
PRECISE TOPICS WHICH THE MINISTRY WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS.
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